

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Administration Building 7:00 – 10:02 p.m. April 20, 2011

Members Present:

Leandra Sedlack, Presiding Officer
 Mark Mirabile
 Patti Essig
 Lisa Houk
 Karen O'Halloran
 Rick Rigley
 Beth Tegtmeier

ROLL CALL AND VISITORS

Present with Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf were staff members Erika Sawosko, Meg Pokorny, Catherine Chang, Matt Vandercar, Joni Sherman, John McAtee and Judith Stevens; Tom King, Skyward; and residents Kim Gilman, Mike Rak, Kim Barker, Dariusz Ciucias, and Gina Nelson.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Board President Leandra Sedlack presented a certificate of appreciation to Jim Lucarelli (Mr. Jim) for all the wonderful things he has done for the students and the District. President Sedlack conveyed gratitude to Mr. Jim on behalf of staff, students and parents.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Board member Beth Tegtmeier presented certificates of recognition to the 7th grade girls' volleyball team for winning the conference championship. Mrs. Tegtmeier shared that this is the first Pleasantdale team to have an undefeated regular season and take 2nd place in the tournament.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf noted that an additional policy was added to be reviewed during the policy section that was already on the agenda.

OPEN FORUM

Gina Nelson commented that she had forwarded a letter to the Board of Education regarding a request for a correction on the March Board minutes. This correction was in relation to her comments about the district's position on Standards Based Grading.

ACTION NO. 35
Consent Agenda

Motion by Houk, seconded by O'Halloran, that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda as revised consisting of: regular meeting minutes of March 16, 2011; closed session meeting minutes of March 16, 2011; payment of March payroll/April warrants; amended FY11 School Calendar; and Board policies 4:1470 and 6:15.
 Motion carried by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier) and 1 nay (Essig).

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Skyward Student Software Management Agreement Review

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf introduced Tom King from Skyward to discuss the contract between the District and Skyward. Mr. King has been with the company for 7 years and Skyward has been in business for approximately 30 years. There had been questions regarding source codes and Mr. King explained that there are a limited amount of customers who have the option to access source codes included in their contract. Most districts use the standard contract that has been presented to the Board. District attorneys and Skyward have worked together to revise the contract and have come to agreement regarding the source

code issue. Contractual language was also added to protect the district should Skyward go into bankruptcy or merge with another company. Implementation of the Skyward software has already been initiated.

Review of School Board (sec. 2) Board Policies

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf reviewed School Board (sec. 2) Board policies that were previously reviewed by Board President Leandra Sedlack and himself. Board member Patti Essig requested if policy could reflect that all communication to the Board needs to be sent to the Board email (board@d107.org) and not to Board members' private email addresses. Superintendent Fredisdorf reviewed revisions to the Acceptable Use Policy and changes that need to be taken to address cyber bullying. Students and at least one parent have been participating in cyber bullying this year. It is recommended that the student and parent Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) be strengthened to address cyber bullying. The policy will reference the Parent/Student Handbook regarding consequences. The policy will be reviewed by the District's attorney before Board approval.

Curriculum Council Status Report

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf provided the Board with a status on the completion of common assessments; revision of K-8 report cards; creation of guidelines for providing students with further attempts; consideration of updating ITBS norms from 2005 to 2011; and the function of the Parent Advisory Committee. There will be no change in grading for the upcoming school year. The current grading practices will remain in place. It is the feeling of the curriculum council and teachers that guidelines need to be in place to have a uniform procedure for providing students with further attempts. This will be discussed at the next Parent Advisory Committee meeting, May 5th. Catherine Lawrence will attend the May Board meeting to explain the change in the ITBS norms from 2005 to 2011.

Schedule Organizational Board Meeting

Superintendent Mark Fredisdorf explained that an organizational meeting to seat the new Board must take place within 7 days of canvassing the votes on April 26th. The Board is recommending the organizational meeting be scheduled on April 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Self-Evaluation Scheduling

Board President Leandra Sedlack worked with Board member Karen O'Halloran regarding the Board self evaluation schedule. It is being recommended that the Board Pro Forma calendar be updated to reflect the Board will conduct a Board self evaluation every even year in June to accommodate election years.

Review of Service Provider Bids/Contracts

Business Manager Catherine Chang provided a brief status report on service provider bids and/or contracts. The Board is scheduled to approve the contracts at the May meeting.

ACTION NO. 36

Skyward Agreement

Motion by Sedlack, seconded by Houk, that the Board of Education approve the agreement to purchase Skyward student management software for implementation beginning the 2011-12 school year. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O'Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier.)

ACTION NO. 37

Organizational Mtg.

Motion by O'Halloran, seconded by Tegtmeier, that the Board of Education approve to hold its Organizational meeting on April 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the administration building. Voice vote. Motion carried.

NEXT AGENDA

Items submitted for the next meeting agendas include:

Organizational Meeting: Election of President, Vice President and Secretary; Appointment of Recording Secretary; Establish Regular Meeting Day, Time and Location; Appointment of IASB and Committee Representatives.

May Meeting: Curriculum Council Status Report; Approve School Board (sec. 2) Board Policies; Approve Milk Bid and Fees; Approve Paper Bid; Approve Hot Lunch Contract Renewal; Appointment of Auditor; Approve Cleaning Service Contract; LaGrange Area of Special Education (LADSE) Preschool Recommendation; Student Transportation from High School Classes; and Administrative and Confidential Employee Contracts.

OPEN FORUM

Dariusz Ciucias stated that Pleasantdale is doing extremely well in math partly because high performing students are attending advanced classes at Lyons Township High School. He expressed concern regarding possible elimination of the busing to Lyons Township High School. Students work very hard to attend advanced math classes at the high school. The elimination of transportation could have a negative impact on participation as some parents may not have the resources to provide transportation on their own. The parent also commended the middle school teacher responsible for promoting student participation in this program.

Gina Nelson wanted the District to check on the posting requirements for special meetings. Also, regarding Board emails, she felt that Board emails are only forwarded to the Board weekly which may be why people have sent them directly to personal email addresses.

ACTION NO. 38

Closed Session

Motion by Essig, seconded by Rigley, that the Board of Education move into closed session at 9:01 p.m. to discuss employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of personnel. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O’Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier.)

The Board came out of closed session at 10:00 p.m.

ACTION NO. 39

Personnel Report

Motion by O’Halloran, seconded by Rigley, that the Board of Education approve the April 2011 Personnel Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously by a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Essig, Houk, Mirabile, O’Halloran, Rigley, Sedlack, Tegtmeier.)

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

App. __ President



Secretary

